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AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

EMANCIPATION

OF THE

SLAVES

OF

UNITY VALLEY PEN, IN JAMAICA.

By DAVID BARCLAY.

*"I would not have a Slave to till my ground,
" To carry me, to fan me while I sleep,
" And tremble when I wake, for all the wealth
" That sinews bought and sold have ever earn'd."*

COWPER.

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INTRODUCTION.

HAVING been a Slave Owner, and much dissatisfied in being so, I determined to try the experiment of liberating my Slaves; firmly convinced, that the retaining my fellow creatures in bondage was not only irreconcileable with the precepts of Christianity, but subversive of the rights of human nature; and having now, after an experience of five years, had satisfactory proofs of its good effects, I am induced, for the information and encouragement of others, who may be in similar circumstances, to publish the annexed account. Experience has repeatedly proved, that a statement of facts well authenticated, is more convincing than the ablest theoretical reasoning; and by the facts here adduced, it will clearly appear, that the assertions of those who are inimical to the natural rights of mankind, are unfounded. I allude to the supposed *impolicy* and *impracticability* of emancipating slaves, even for the comfort and happiness of the black people themselves; but I am not without a hope, that the time may arrive when Britons will be more generally convinced, that the holding of our fellow creatures in slavery, is inconsistent with every principle of religious and moral duty, as well as contrary to sound policy in a national point of view. + At the same time I am decidedly of opinion, that emancipation must be *gradual*. Far be it from me to recommend that all the slaves in the

+ See History of Guinea, by Anthony Benezet - - 1771. Phillips.

A Sermon, - - - - Bishop of Chester - - 1784. Rivingtons.

A Summary of the Slave Trade, by the Society instituted in London for the purpose of effecting the } 1787. Phillips.

Abolition of the Slave Trade - - - - - }

An Essay on the Treatment, &c. of Slaves, by James } 1788. - - - - - Ramsay - - - - - }

Thoughts on the African Slave Trade, by John } 1788. - - - - - Newton - - - - - }

A Sermon, by John Hughes - - - - - 1788. Cadell.

Remarks on the Slave Trade, by Thomas Gisborne 1792. White.

And many others.

See also speeches in Parliament, 1791 & 1792, Wilberforce, Pitt, Fox, &c., told by Woodfall.

West Indies should at once be liberated; because such a measure might tend to confusion and misery. I have, however, a strong desire, that the first session of the Imperial Parliament, in the first year of the nineteenth century, might be marked in the British history by an act to abolish that horrid traffick, the *Slave Trade*, agreeably to the repeated humane and judicious motions in the House of Commons, made by William Wilberforce; which have been uniformly supported by the wisest men in these kingdoms. When we consider the great acquisition of new members from our sister kingdom, in both houses of Parliament, may we not indulge ourselves in the expectation that this great object will be effected. The condition of the Negroes *now* in bondage would be ameliorated in consequence of such a measure; and, in *time*, they and their children would be made fit for emancipation; when their owners might, with security, have the heart-felt satisfaction of restoring human beings to their *natural rights*, as well as adding to society many useful members. This, I trust, will prove the case with those Blacks whose settlement in Philadelphia is stated in the following pages. I embrace this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the kind attention of my friends, viz. James Pemberton, Thomas Fisher, Samuel Fisher, Miers Fisher, Doctor Thomas Parke, Isaac Lloyd, Thomas Harrison, Joseph Moore, Abraham Liddon, Mordecai Churchman, Richard Jones, John Letchworth, Benjamin Kite, and Daniel Thomas; and Absalom Jones and Richard Allen, pastors of the congregation of the free blacks in Philadelphia; also of my friend Alexander Macleod, for his benevolent conduct towards the Slaves whilst under his agency; and lastly, of my friend William Holden, for his prompt and judicious conduct, and unremitting attention, in the execution of this arduous business: and I earnestly desire that the following account may arrest the attention of all those who are concerned in Slaves.

DAVID BARCLAY.

Walthamstow, Essex,

11 of 5th Month, 1801.

AN ACCOUNT, &c.

DAVID BARCLAY and JOHN BARCLAY, of London, in consequence of a debt due to them from a correspondent in Jamaica, having come into possession of a Pen (or grazing farm) in that island, on which were thirty-two slaves, they determined to emancipate them, and signified their determination to their agent, Alexander Macleod, of Spanish Town*; who, though he applauded the principle, declined executing a measure which would be very unpopular in the island; but consented to emancipate two of them, whom he thought the most likely to provide for themselves by working on the Pen, and receiving wages at the rate of 17l. currency per annum, with some other advantages. Accordingly he manumitted a man about thirty years of age, named Hamlet, and a woman about the same age, named Prudence; but in less than a year, both of them so relaxed in their labour, † that Alexander Macleod thought their example would be very disadvantageous to the owners of the estate: he therefore discharged them, and agreed to allow to each, 5l. currency per annum, ‡ for life, agreeably to the law of the island on the emancipation of a slave. Hamlet set up in business as a horse-breaker, and Prudence, as a laundress; in which occupations they maintained themselves with good reputation.

* A respectable gentleman, now retired from business, and residing at Muiravon, near Edinburgh.

† This was to be expected, when two slaves among thirty had their freedom; but supposing all of them had been on the same footing, and to have been paid according to their respective merits, there then would have been competition among them, as among all other labourers.

The assembly at Grenada states—I have their own words for it, “ That although the Negroes are allowed the afternoon of only one day in every week they will do as much work in that afternoon, when employed for their own benefit, as in the whole day when employed in their master’s service.”—W. Pitt’s speech, 1792, p. 149. Woodfall.

‡ About 3l. 11s. Sterling.

The property having, according to the law of Jamaica, devolved on David Barclay, by the decease of his brother John Barclay, he determined to emancipate the rest of the slaves, and to remove them to Philadelphia, agreeably to his own and his late brother's wishes, and the desire of his brother's family. For this purpose he engaged William Holden, to go to Jamaica, and to convey the thirty slaves to Philadelphia; in which city David Barclay, in consequence of his former mercantile concerns, had a numerous and respectable acquaintance; and where was already formed a Society for the abolition of slavery, and for the benefit of free blacks, of which society he was an honorary member. This will account for his not having sent them to a more southerly climate. William Holden was instructed, on arrival, to deliver them *emancipated*, to John Ashley, the agent of David Barclay in Philadelphia. Letters were accordingly forwarded to apprise John Ashley of David Barclay's intention, and also letters to the president, and several members of "The Society for improving the condition of free Blacks," † to recommend these black people to its protection.

For the success of William Holden's mission, see the following letter.

Copy of a Letter from William Holden to David Barclay, dated Surry Place, 7th March, 1801.

Dear Sir,

Agreeably to your desire, I commit to writing that which I have so frequently communicated to you in conversation, respecting the particulars of the pleasant mission in which I engaged, and by the compleat success of which I was much gratified, notwithstanding I made three voyages in time of war, and left my family behind me.

On the 15th of January, 1795, I embarked in the packet for Jamaica, and arrived there on the 10th of March; soon after which I delivered your letter to Mr. Alexander Macleod, of Spanish

† Instituted 1774, by the inhabitants of Philadelphia, of all religious persuasions.

Town, who received me with much politeness, and treated me with the utmost kindness and hospitality, and assured me that he would readily assist in the execution of your orders for the transportation of the slaves; and accordingly invited me to accompany him to Unity Valley Pen, in the parish of St. Ann's, about forty miles from Kingston; and on our arrival there, he ordered all the slaves to be collected together for my inspection; when it appeared that two were so infirm and diseased as not to be fit for removal. I then, in the presence of Mr. Macleod, and the overseer of the Pen, endeavoured to convey to the adults, *sixteen* in number, your intention to make them free, with the children, in number *twelve*. Upon the strength of their unanimous consent to accept the offer, I engaged a vessel to convey them to Philadelphia, laid in provisions, cloathed them properly, and, when all things were ready, caused them to be conveyed from the Pen to Kingston, in order to embark; but on their arrival on the wharf, where the ship's boat was ready to carry them on board, they unanimously declared they had altered their minds, and would *not* go, because they had been informed that "they were to be sold to the Spaniards." In this state of embarrassment I knew not, for some considerable time, how to act; and for two hours I never experienced such agitation of mind; but after finding all my arguments were in vain, I took *John* (one of the most sensible and intelligent of them) aside; and having explained my intentions, and taken much pains with him, John said, "You are our massa (master), and we are your slaves, and you have a right to do with us what you please; I therefore will go with you, and will endeavour to prevail on the rest to go with you also." Soon after this they all went on board; previous to which they were *manumitted*;* and on the voyage, which was short and pleasant, by proper attention to them, I obtained their entire confidence; and we arrived at Philadelphia on the 22d of July, all in high spirits; and on the same evening I delivered them to Messrs. James Pemberton, president to the society for improving the condition of free blacks, and Doctor Thomas Parke, one of its members; as will appear by the minutes of the committee, which

* See a copy of the deed of manumission, p. 11.

I delivered to you, and which will best prove the great attention and kindness paid by the society to the black people, as also to me during my stay at Philadelphia; which city I left on the 16th of September, after taking leave of my newly acquired friends of colour, and having seen them settled to their satisfaction. I arrived the 26th October at Portsmouth, and had the great pleasure of finding my family well, and that I had executed my mission to the satisfaction of yourself, to the family of your late brother Mr. John Barclay, and very much so to my own.

I am with much respect, &c.

WILLIAM HOLDEN,

Extracts from the Minutes of the Committee of the Society for improving the Condition of Free Blacks, appointed to attend to the case of certain Blacks expected to arrive from Jamaica.

At a meeting of the Committee for improving the condition of Free Blacks, held the 30th of Sixth Month, 1795, Thomas Harrison communicated several letters, which were read, viz. one from David Barclay, of London, dated 6th of Second month last, to James Pemberton, president of the Abolition Society; one to John Ashley, D. Barclay's agent here; one from William Holden, dated Jamaica, the 24th of Third Month last; by which it appears, that the late brother of the said David Barclay, and himself, became possessed of about thirty black people in Jamaica, and who are expected shortly to arrive in this city, sent by David Barclay, *emancipated*, under the care of William Holden, addressed to John Ashley, to be put in a condition to provide comfortably for themselves. It is therefore agreed, that the following named persons be a Committee, to afford such assistance to John Ashley, William Holden, or any other of the persons named in the letters of David Barclay, in carrying his benevolent designs into execution, as shall appear to them right, viz. Isaac Lloyd, Thomas Harrison, Joseph Moore, Abraham Liddon, Mordecai Churchman, Richard Jones, John Letchworth, and Benjamin Kite.

BENJAMIN KITE, Secretary.

Philadelphia, 23d of Seventh Month, 1795.—Some of us understanding yesterday that the said Black people had arrived in the brig West Indian, and were under the care of William Holden, specially employed by David Barclay and the executors of John Barclay, to conduct them here; procured of the trustees of the African Methodist meeting-house, that building for a temporary residence for them; to which they were conducted last evening. And several of us attended this morning at the house of Thomas Harrison, and having consulted upon the business, adjourned to meet to-morrow morning.

24th of Seventh Month.—It being thought advisable to confer with the agents and confidential friends of David Barclay, before the Committee proceeded to act in the case committed to their care, they all but one met at James Pemberton's, this afternoon, for that purpose; when William Holden, in writing, agreeably to his instructions, resigned his trust to James Pemberton and Doctor Thomas Parke, (John Ashley, the other agent, being absent from the city), and the said James Pemberton and Dr. Thomas Parke, by the following writing, intrusted their agency in the business to the Committeee of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society, for improving the condition of Free Blacks, who had previously appointed this Committee for that purpose.

To the Committee of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society, for improving the Condition of Free Blacks.

" Having heretofore requested you to take charge of the black people about to be sent from Jamaica, by David Barclay, and the executors of John Barclay, under the care of their agent, William Holden, to us; and they being now arrived, we request you to expedite the transaction of this business with all convenient speed, in such manner as will be most likely to fulfil the benevolent views of the said David Barclay, &c. and the real good of the blacks, who are the objects of this concern; desiring you to keep regular minutes of your proceedings in the business. We deliver to you the instrument of emancipation, dated at Jamaica the 15th day of June, in the present year, which we desire to be put on record. In

placing out the minors, we request that provision may be made for their school-learning, and that they may be taught mechanick trades in preference to any other businesf."

Signed,

24th of Seventh Month,
1795.

JAMES PEMBERTON,
JOHN ASHLEY,
THOMAS PARKE.

The names and ages of the said Blacks are as follows, viz.

11 Women, several of whom are Africans.	Sabina	about 40	5 Men, native Africans.	John	about 32
	Bathsheba	35		Bacchus	23
	Clarissa	35		London	42
	Mintas	34		Simon	25
	Patience	32		Kingston	23
	Amelia	28		Charles	14
	Nancy	26		Prince	14
	Nanny	24		Yawo	14
	Dido	24		Toby	12
	Phillis	22		Wiltshire	11
	Juba	14		Sancho	10
2 Girls	Charlotte	5	10 Boys, natives of Jamaica.	Mingo	10
	Sukey	4		October	8
				Quashie	7
				Cesfar	6

Adjourned.

8 o'clock, P. M.—The Committee again met, when it was agreed, that Isaac Lloyd, Thomas Harrison, and Abraham Liddon, visit the Black people, consult with them upon what businesf will be most agreeable to them, and consider what they are fit for, and inform this Committee. In the mean time, it is expected that all the members will receive applications for them. Adjourned.

25th of Seventh Month.—Committee met. The Sub-committee appointed last evening to confer with the Blacks, &c. report that they all visited them this day, and have agreed to place several of them out, viz. Charles and Mingo with William Clifton, who proposes to teach them to be Nailers, to give them full school-learning as may be agreed upon, he to pay ten pounds a piece, one half at the time of binding, and the other half at the expiration of their

apprenticeship;* which is considered by this Committee as an advantageous proposal, and agreed to. Adjourned.

The Society continued to meet until the 10th of Ninth Month, when, in twenty-one sittings, they had compleated the placing out the Black people, as per account in pages 13 and 14, delivered to William Holden.

N. B. Benjamin Kite having desired to resign, Daniel Thomas was appointed in his room.

11th of Ninth Month.—Thomas Harrison, Joseph Moore, John Letchworth, and Mordecai Churchman attended, arranged and revised the minutes and proceedings of this Committee, and Mordecai Churchman is nominated to transcribe them, in order that William Holden, who is about to embark for London, may have a copy to transmit to David Barclay.

Although William Holden, on his arrival with the Blacks, transferred his charge of them, as is heretofore stated, this Committee conceive it their duty to express their high sense of his unremitting care and assistance, through the whole course of their proceedings in the business.

<i>Isaac Lloyd,</i>	<i>Mordecai Churchman,</i>
<i>Thomas Harrison,</i>	<i>Daniel Thomas,</i>
<i>Joseph Moore,</i>	<i>Richard Jones,</i>
<i>Abraham Liddon,</i>	<i>John Letchworth.</i>

Copy of the instrument of Manumission.

Jamaica, ss. To all whom these presents shall come, or may in any wise concern. David Barclay, of Lympstone, in the county of Devon, in the kingdom of Great Britain,† Esquire, by Alexander Macleod, of the parish of St. Catherine, in the county of Middlesex, in the island aforesaid, Esquire, his attorney, duly constituted and appointed, sends greeting. Know ye that for and in con-

* The sums received from those to whom the younger blacks were apprenticed, formed a fund for the relief of the elder ones, in case such relief should become necessary.

† Should have been, of London, Banker.

federation of the sum of ten shillings, current money of Jamaica, to him in hand well and truly paid, by William Holden, of the parish of Kingston, in the county of Surry and island aforesaid, Esquire, at or before the execution hereof, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged; he, the said David Barclay, by his attorney aforesaid, hath liberated, enfranchised, manumitted, and for ever set free, all those Negro male and female slaves, named, London, Bacchus, Simon, John, Kingston, Charles, Mintas, Nanny, Dido, Bathsheba, Patience, Amelia, Clarissa, Nancy, Sabina, Juba, Phillis, Prince, Yawo, Toby, Wiltshire, Sancho, Mingo, October, Quashie, Cæsar, Charlotte, and Sukey, with the future increase and issue of the females of the said slaves, being now wholly the property of the said David Barclay, from all manner of servitude and slavery whatever: to hold the said liberty and freedom hereby granted unto them the said London, Bacchus, Simon, John, Kingston, Charles, Mintas, Nanny, Dido, Bathsheba, Patience, Amelia, Clarissa, Nancy, Sabina, Juba, Phillis, Prince, Yawo, Toby, Wiltshire, Sancho, Mingo, October, Quashie, Cæsar, Charlotte, and Sukey, with the future issue and increase of the females of the said slaves, from henceforth and for evermore: in witness whereof the said David Barclay, by the said Alexander Macleod, his attorney, and the said Alexander Macleod, as attorney to the said David Barclay, have hereunto set their hands and seals, this fifteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five.

Sealed and delivered
in the presence of
Robert Allifon.

DAVID BARCLAY, (L. S.)
By Alex. Macleod his Attorney.
ALEX. MACLEOD, (L. S.)
Attorney to David Barclay.

A General View of the Appropriation of the Blacks.

<i>Names</i>	<i>about 2 years old</i>	<i>To whom bound</i>	<i>when bound 1795.</i>	<i>Conditions</i>
Bacchus	23	Lydia Gilpin	4th of 8th Mo.	For 2 years, to be found in clothes, and to be paid 40 dollars when free.
Dido	24	Catherine Parker	ditto	2 years, to be provided with clothes, and to be paid $26\frac{2}{3}$ dollars when free.
Juba	24	Jeremiah Paul	ditto	4 years, to be taught to read and write, found in clothes, &c. and have freedom dues, viz. two compleat suits of apparel, one of which to be new.
Toby	32	Benjamin Cresson	ditto	9 years, to be taught to pull and cut fur, colour and finish hats, and to read and write, to be found in clothes, &c. and have freedom dues.
Simon	25	Betton & Harrison	5th of 8th Mo.	2 years, to be provided with clothes, &c. and to be paid 40 dollars when free.
Sancho	16	Isaac Parish	ditto	11 years, to learn to pull and cut fur, and colour and finish hats, to be taught to read and write, and have freedom dues.
Prince	24	John Ashley	ditto	7 years, to be taught to read and write, found in clothes, &c. and have freedom dues.
Charles	34	William Clifton	ditto	7 years, to learn to make nails, be taught to read and write, found in clothes, &c. and have freedom dues.
Mingo	19	Thomas Annesly	7th of 8th Mo.	2 years, to be found in clothes, and $26\frac{2}{3}$ dollars when free.
Clarissa	35			14 years, to be taught to read and write, found in clothes, &c. and have freedom dues, and to be paid 10 dollars when free.
Quashie, alias George Barclay	7	Samuel Betton	ditto	15 years. He died and was interred in the Potter's field; attended by Absalom Jones, minister of the African church, William Holden, and several of the Committee.
Cæsar	6	Richard Robinett	8th of 8th Mo.	14 years, to be taught to read and write, found in clothes, &c. have freedom dues, and be paid 10 dollars when free.
Sukkey, alias Susanna	4	James M'Glathery	ditto	

Continued in the next page.

A General View of the Appropriation of the Blacks, continued.

<i>Names</i>	<i>about Years old.</i>	<i>To whom bound</i>	<i>when bound 1795.</i>	<i>Conditions</i>
Kingston	25	Ellis Yarnall	11th of 8th Mo.	2 years, to be found in clothes, and paid 40 dollars when free.
John	32	George Latimer	ditto	Conditions, the same as Kingston.
Sabina	40	Silas Engles	ditto	For 2 years, to be found, &c. and paid 26 $\frac{2}{3}$ dollars when free.
Nanny	24	Samuel Richards, jun.	ditto	{ 2 years, on the same conditions as Sabina, the money to be paid by the master.
Bathsheba	25	Samuel Richards, jun.	ditto	2 years, on the same conditions as Nanny.
Amelia	26	Mary Richie	26th of 8th Mo.	2 years, ditto
Yawo, alias David Barclay	14	James Widdifield	ditto	{ 7 years, to learn the Carpenter's trade, be taught to read and write, and have freedom dues.
Otobee, alias Robert Barclay	8	John Chapman	26th of 9th Mo.	{ 13 years, to learn the trade of a Windsor Chair-maker, to be taught to read and write, found in clothes, &c. and have freedom dues.
London	42	John Wall	ditto	2 years, to be found in clothes, and paid 40 dollars.
Charlotte	5	Capt. Matthew Strong	2d of 9th Mo.	{ 13 years, to be taught housewifery, to read and write, and have freedom dues.
Mintas	34	—	—	Not yet bound; but placed with S. R. Fisher
Phillis	22	—	—	In the Pennsylvania hospital.
Wiltshire	11	—	—	Ditto.
Nancy	26	—	—	{ Died, and was interred in the Potter's field, the corpse attended by William Holden, some of the Committee, and a respectable company of black people.
Patience	32	—	—	Not bound.

N. B. The family name of Barclay has been annexed in all the indentures of those who are bound, to distinguish them.

 Two years servitude of adults entitles them to settlement.

Extracts of two Letters from Alexander Macleod to David Barclay.

New York, November 14, 1796.

"Having been obliged to quit Jamaica on account of my health, when at Philadelphia I had very great pleasure in seeing several of the Black people you sent there, very comfortably settled, and highly satisfied with their condition. Several of them called on me, and expressed their gratitude to you for the benevolent part you have acted. When I return, in ten days hence, I shall probably see the rest of them."

Jamaica, Spanish Town, Feb. 16, 1797.

"When I was in Philadelphia, I saw several of my old Unity Valley acquaintance, who looked decent, well dressed, said they lived well and happy, but complained of the cold climate. I attended divine service at the African church, and had much pleasure to see them there, apparently impressed with a proper notion of morality and religion, and as far as I could see or learn, practising its precepts and commands."

*Extract of a Letter from Doctor Thomas Parke, to David Barclay,
dated Philadelphia, 6th of 5th Month, 1799.*

"I have now the satisfaction of informing thee, that the business respecting the Black people, from Jamaica, with our Abolition Society, is finally settled.

"As all the survivors have obtained, by servitude, a right of support from the public (if unable to maintain themselves), Miers Fisher and myself have paid (per J. Ashley), the Abolition Society £139 19s. 2½d. currency, being for sundry expences incurred by them for maintaining several of the Blacks in sickness, &c. I have enclosed a list of the Blacks, describing their present situation, &c. which I obtained by visiting and examining them. It is satisfactory to observe, that most of them conduct themselves reputably,

and procure decent support; a few, however, appear helpless, particularly Sabina, Clarissa, and Juba, who seem incapable of maintaining themselves, our severe weather in the winter almost disqualifies them for labour.

“ Several of them requested me to express their gratitude to thee for thy kindness, and promise by their behaviour to afford good examples to their brethren.”

1799 — 5th Month.

I7

List of Blacks liberated by David Barclay, in Jamaica, and placed out in Philadelphia by the Committee of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society, and visited by Dr. Thomas Parke.

<i>Names</i>	<i>about Years</i>	<i>To whom bound</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
London Barclay	46	J. Wall	is now married and lives with John.
John	36	G. Latimer	is now married to Amelia, and conducts himself well.
Simon	30	Betton & Co.	conducts himself prudently, and is married to Mintas.
Kingston	28	E. Yarnall	continues in E. Y's service, as a free servant, and is industrious and sober.
Prince	18	J. Ashley	promises to be an useful servant.
Charles	18	W. Clifton	still in his apprenticeship as Nailer.
Yawo, alias David	18	J. Widdifield	ditto as Carpenter.
Toby	16	B. Cresson	{ ditto as Hatters.
Sancho	14	J. Parish	{ ditto as Nailer.
Mingo	14	W. Clifton	{ ditto as Windsor Chair-maker.
October, alias Robert	12	J. Chapman	still an indentured servant.
Quashie, alias George	11	S. Betton	out of her time.
Sabina	44	S. Engles	ditto.
Bathsheba	39	S. Richards	ditto.
Clarra	39	T. Annesly	is married to Simon, and conducts herself reputably.
Mintas	38	S. R. Fisher	is married to John.
Amelia	32	M. Ritch	deceased—but gave great satisfaction to her employers when living.
Nanny	28	S. Richards, junr.	term of her servitude being expired, she now lives with her mother Clarissa.
Juba	18	J. Paul	still in her place.
Charlotte	9	M. Strong	ditto.
Sukey, alias Susanna	8	J. M. Glathery	— — — — died 1798.
Dido	—	C. Parker	— — — — died 1798.
Bacchus	—	L. Gilpin	— — — —
Phillis	—		{ perverse disposition and very troublesome, was boarded in the Alm's house } died 6th Month 25th, 1798.
Patience	—		{ ditto ditto } died 6th Month, 1798.

Extract of a Letter from James Pemberton, to William Dillwyn, of Walthamstow, Essex, dated Philadelphia, 29th of Eleventh Month, 1800.

"I request thee to present to our mutual friend, David Barclay, my kindest respects, and inform him that I have the satisfaction to find, that his humane views towards the Blacks from Jamaica, to whom he had manifested such unprecedented benevolence and liberality, are so far realized, that these objects of his concern enjoy their freedom with comfort to themselves and are respectable in their characters; keeping up a friendly intercourse with each other, avoiding to intermix with the common blacks of the city, being sober in their conduct and industrious in their business."

Soon after the removal of the slaves, the Pen, with the stock of cattle, was sold for 5,500l. sterling, with agreement for the purchaser to treat kindly the survivor of the two negroes, who were infirm and diseased, and left on the Pen; also to pay Hamlet and Prudence 5l. currency per ann. each for their lives. Had the thirty slaves been sold with the Pen, about 8000l. sterling might have been obtained. The expence of removing the slaves, and their expences at Philadelphia, were about 500l. sterling, exclusive of remuneration to William Holden for his services. But the satisfaction which resulted to the minds of David Barclay and his family, fully compensated the trouble, expence, and anxiety experienced during the accomplishment of the undertaking.

Had David Barclay not been so advanced in age, he would have inclined to have made a trial of employing on the Pen *white* labourers from Britain, there being reason to believe, from Long's History of Jamaica,* that in the most flourishing state of Barbadoes, the *sugar cane* there, was principally cultivated by hired *white* servants; in confirmation of which see the following letter from William Holden; and it must be allowed (in a political point of

* Vol. p. 502, 505.

of view) that inviting British subjects to go to our colonies would be far more eligible than their transmigrating to foreign countries.*

Surry Place, 20th March, 1801.

Dear Sir,

“ In answer to your query, whether it is my opinion that *white* labourers might be employed on Unity Valley Pen, I reply in the affirmative; and my reasons for thinking so are—

“ 1st. That in my late residence at Barbadoes, I had many families of *white* people employed to my satisfaction on the estates which were under my management; there being more poor *white* labouring people in that island than in any other of the British islands in the West Indies.

“ 2dly. Jamaica is near six degrees to the northward of Barbadoes, and Unity Valley Pen is on the N. E. part of the island, about fourteen miles only from the sea; and the Pen, consisting of about two thousand acres, on two-thirds of which are very lofty trees, viz. mahogany, cedar, fustick, &c. which afford much shade. The value of the timber, were it practicable to convey it to Britain, would be incalculable; but the access to the sea is mountainous, and too difficult.

“ 3dly. The labour on a Pen is much lighter than on a sugar plantation, the employment of the former being only to look after cattle, horses, mules, &c. and to attend to them in the same manner as is practised by graziers in England, in order to sell them when fat or improved in age, to remove them from pasture to pasture, and to water, there being on the Pen about 430 acres of Guinea grass † in eleven inclosures, 75 acres of common pasture, 12 acres of ground for raising yams, potatoes, garden stuff, &c. for the overseer and the negroes, the former residing in a comfortable house, and the latter in cottages near thereto. They are also em-

* It has been confidently asserted, that although white people cannot endure the heat of the sun in the West Indies as many hours in the day as blacks, yet, that white labourers will perform in a given time double the work of slaves followed by a driver and a whip.

† A fine long grass remarkable for the tattling of cattle.

the pastures, keeping up the fences, &c. and
wife occupied, they clear more land, by cutting
down and burning the fine trees, stocking their roots, and spreading
the ashes on the land.

"As a proof of the coolness of the spot, on the different visits
I made to Unity Valley, I found that a blanket on my bed (which
was hung with woollen curtains), was very comfortable and even
necessary. The situation of the Pen is remarkably pleasant, where
a man; his family, and white labourers, might live very comfortably,
and gain property, if he had any knowledge of grazing.

"I am, with much respect, &c.

"W.M. HOLDEN."

THE END.